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SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(Month of January, 1985)

The number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters during January declined by twenty-seven from the December total. According to the Society of Exploration Geophysicists' latest monthly report, the January total was 439, compared with 466 the preceding month. Approximately one-fourth of the decline was due to poor weather conditions.

The January total (439) represents a decrease of 6% from last month, an 8% decrease from January, 1984, a 4% decrease from January, 1983, a 37% decrease from January, 1982, a 26% decrease from January, 1981, a 6% decrease from January, 1980, and a gain of 24% over the same month in 1979.

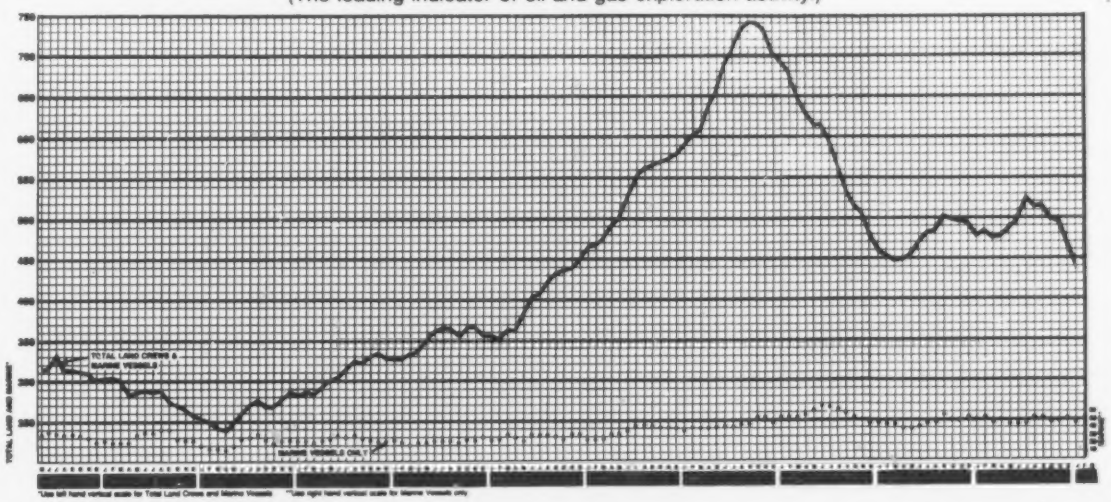
During January, eleven contractors were operating seventeen of the 358 land crews and four of the thirty-nine vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month 439	Last Month 466	Jan. 84 477	Jan. 83 456	Jan. 82 695	Jan. 81 591	Jan. 80 468	Jan. 79 355

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Jan. 1984	Jan. 1983	Jan. 1982	Jan. 1981	Jan. 1980	Jan. 1979	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Jan. 1984	Jan. 1983	Jan. 1982	Jan. 1981	Jan. 1980	Jan. 1979
75 Contr's:	358	378	390	365	599	513	400	290	39	44	42	42	46	32	24	21
10 Oil Co's:	35	36	37	42	43	40	39	37	7	8	8	7	7	6	5	7
1 Gov't.:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals:	393	414	427	407	642	553	439	327	46	52	50	49	53	38	29	28

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



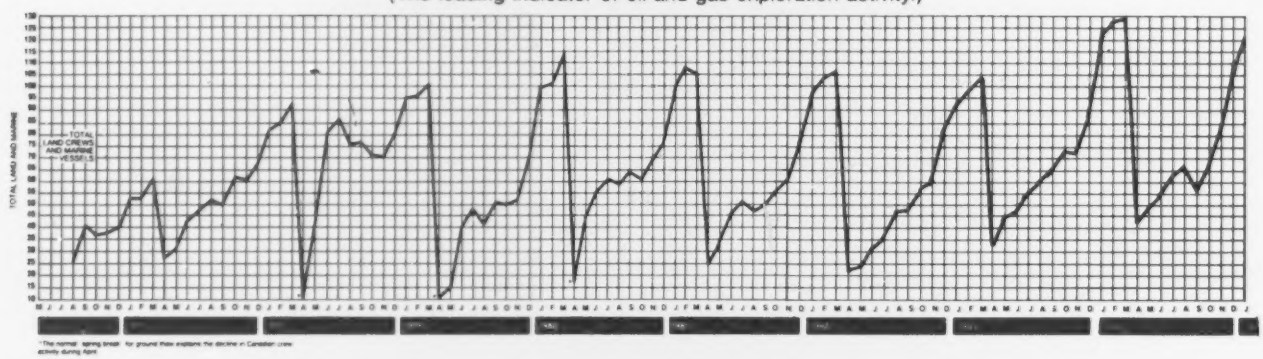
*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

January, 1985 (December, 1984 figures in parentheses)

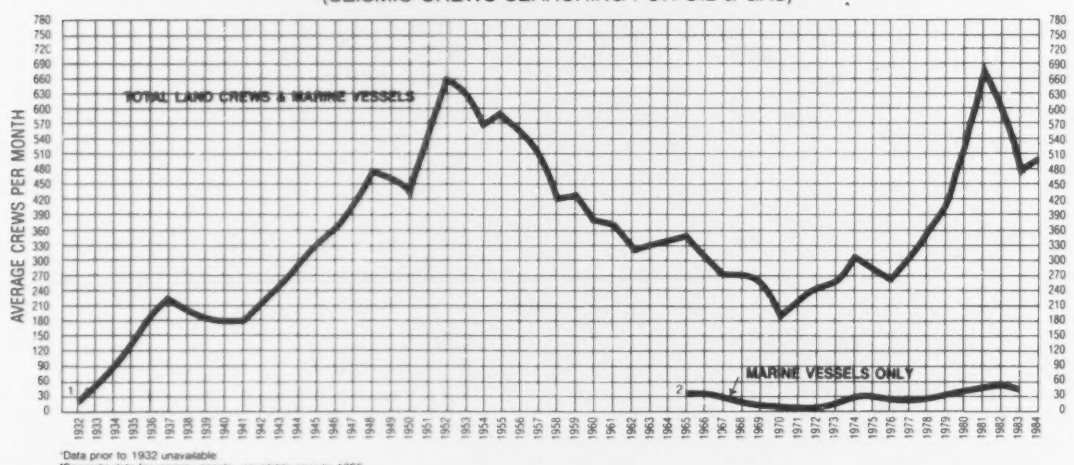
	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
28 Contractors:	120 (102)	0 (5)
2 Oil Companies:	3 (3)	0 (0)
Totals:	123 (105)	0 (5)

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT
(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was organized in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy. Both the U.S. and the international surveys are financed in part by a grant from the International Association of Geophysical Contractors.

HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(SEISMIC CREWS SEARCHING FOR OIL & GAS)



[1]Data prior to 1932 unavailable
[2]Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1965